

U.S. Gulf envoy due in Moscow

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Lieutenant General Vernon Walters, who has been directed by the White House to rally support for a new Gulf peace bid at the United Nations, was to begin his mission in Moscow Tuesday night, aides said. They said Gen. Walters, the chief U.S. delegate here, scheduled the visit some time ago to discuss routine U.N. business with Soviet officials, but that the Gulf crisis now would take precedence. Gen. Walters' travel plans after Moscow were not disclosed. According to the White House, he will visit several capitals to canvas support for American diplomatic efforts through the United Nations to end the Iran-Iraq war, now in its seventh year. White House spokesman Martin Fleewater disclosed Gen. Walters' mission after announcing that President Reagan's plan to use U.S. forces to protect 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf would go into operation in mid-July (See story below). Before that happens, the United States plans yet another attempt to obtain a Gulf ceasefire through a Security Council resolution, with Secretary of State George Shultz leading the U.N. operation.

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Rocket lands in Galilee

TEL AVIV (R) — A Katyusha rocket fired by guerrillas in southern Lebanon hit the northern Galilee region but caused no injuries, military officials said. The rocket was apparently fired from Israel's self-declared "security zone" inside Lebanon, a border area patrolled by Israeli soldiers and their Lebanese supporters, the officials said. Israeli military censors prohibit journalists from publishing the precise locations of where the rockets fall for security reasons.

Israel Radio says Jews whipped in Iran

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel Radio said Tuesday that Iranian Revolutionary Guards arrested all 120 guests at a Jewish engagement party in Tehran last week and subsequently had them whipped. The radio, which gave no source for the report, said each of the arrested Jews was given 75 lashes after alcohol was found on the premises and that an undetermined number were in hospital as a result. The radio quoted its Iranian affairs specialist as saying that Iran's dwindling Jewish community of about 25,000 feared the incident might mark the start of a new anti-Jewish campaign.

Kahane not to get parliamentary salary

TEL AVIV (AP) — Parliament Speaker Shlomo Hillel has barred American-born right-wing legislator Meir Kahane from receiving a parliamentary salary because he refused to make a required oath of allegiance to the state of Israel, a spokesman said Tuesday. The action came in response to a supreme court decision Monday to reject an appeal by Kahane that he was unlawfully stripped of his parliamentary privileges for refusing to take the oath. The court's decision upheld Hillel's June 8 action barring Kahane from taking part in parliament sessions, voting or even entering the main auditorium where the sessions take place. The new action bars Kahane from receiving a monthly salary of \$2,220 is retroactive to June 8.

Israeli Communist Party team in China

PEKING (AP) — An Israeli Communist Party delegation has arrived in Peking, the Chinese Communist Party international liaison department said Tuesday. A department official said the delegation arrived Monday night. The delegation's visit is the first by the Israeli Communist Party to China in more than 25 years. The Israeli party's secretary-general, Meir Wilner, one of the two delegates, told reporters on leaving Tel Aviv last week that the visit was at the invitation of the Chinese party's central committee and he expected talks to focus on the concept of an international Middle East peace conference.

U.S. denies attack on embassy in Kuwait

WASHINGTON (R) — A propane gas bottle being unloaded from a truck exploded and set the vehicle on fire near the U.S. embassy in Kuwait on Tuesday, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. He told Reuters the incident appeared to be the source of rumors that the embassy had been attacked.

INSIDE

- Two U.S. hostages reported 'smuggled' to Iran via Syria and Turkey, page 2
- Queen graduates class of gifted students, page 3
- Peace and U.S. interests in the Mideast, by Richard Murphy, page 4
- Flood of tourists overwhelms Soviet facilities, page 5
- Tour de France kicks off today, page 6
- Kuwait budget projects record deficit, page 7
- S. Korean president set to accept reforms, page 8

King Hussein confers with Iraqi leader

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein held talks in Baghdad on Tuesday on topics believed to centre on the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war and Jordan's efforts to reconcile the Syrian and Iraqi leaderships.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King and President Hussein held two rounds of talks



His Majesty King Hussein with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein during a short working visit the King paid to Baghdad on Tuesday (Petra photo)

King was accompanied on the visit by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

According to Petra, the talks covered current Arab affairs and issues of concern to Jordan and Iraq as well as means to help restore Arab solidarity.

On the Iraqi side the talks were attended by First Deputy Prime Minister and member of the Re-

volutionary Command Council Taha Yassin Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz and Information Minister Latif Jassem.

The second round of talks, after a luncheon hosted by President Hussein in honour of the King and the accompanying delegation, concentrated on the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war and the situation along

(Continued on page 5)

West Bank mayors vow to fight Israel's water plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — West Bank mayors held an emergency meeting late Monday to confront the most serious crisis in 20 years of occupation — Israeli plans to drill a well the mayors fear will rob Palestinian villages of water within the next decades.

The new well, to be drilled southeast of the city of Bethlehem, is expected to produce about 18 million cubic feet of water a year.

The Jerusalem Post quoted unidentified sources close to the project as saying plans called for only a small quantity of water to be made available to Palestinian communities in the occupied West Bank.

"We have never faced a more dangerous crisis," Bethlehem

U.S. to go ahead with Gulf plan and intensify efforts to end war

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

The White House said its operation to put Kuwaiti tankers under the U.S. flag and protect them with American forces in the Gulf would go ahead by mid-July.

President spokesman Marin Fitzwater also said the Reagan administration was launching a major diplomatic effort at the United Nations and worldwide to achieve a negotiated end to the Iran-Iraq war with "no victor and no vanquished."

"We are moving forward with preparations for the registration under U.S. flag of 11 Kuwaiti tankers.... we expect these arrangements to be in place by mid-July, at which time we plan to proceed," he said.

Emerging from White House meeting with congressional leaders, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger said of the plan to register Kuwaiti tankers under the U.S. flag: "It is not a risk-free operation and it has not been presented as such. But the risks of not doing it, I think, are a lot

higher."

CIA Director William Webster reluctantly conceded to reporters that the reflagging operation probably would create "an increase in the threat" of violent reaction.

Mr. Webster said the CIA's U.N. envoy Vernon Walters would travel to unspecified world capitals for consultations on the U.S. effort for a ceasefire in the almost seven-year-old Gulf war.

Fitzwater said that at a morning meeting between Mr. Reagan and a bipartisan congressional delegation led by Democratic Congressman Jim Wright, speaker of the House of Representatives, "it was agreed that the United States has vital interests in the Gulf, that we cannot permit a hostile power to establish a dominant position there."

Mr. Weinberger said that if the United States delayed its tanker protection plan, Kuwait would turn to the Soviet Union for help.

Secretary of State George

(Continued on page 5)

Abdul Meguid meets senior PLO official

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmar Abdul Meguid had talks on Tuesday with a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official, the first such meeting in two months.

A ministry spokesman said talks between Mr. Abdul Meguid and Hani Al Hassan, political adviser of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, covered Egyptian-PLO ties and prospects for an international Middle East peace conference.

Egyptian diplomat Osmania Al Bazz, asked about Mr. Hassan's current visit to Cairo, told Reuters in a telephone interview in Amman:

"We want to find out what the PLO's thinking about a (proposed international Middle East peace) conference is, and its views on future movement in it. We must have a coordinated position."

EC cash-row summit ends with Britain isolated

BRUSSELS (R) — Britain was left isolated at the end of a European Community (EC) summit Tuesday night, refusing to back proposals for long-term financial reforms agreed by its 11 EC partners, diplomats said.

They said the two-day meeting broke up after Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher insisted she would provide no more money for the community in future years until it had brought spending under control.

The United Kingdom stood up for its views and in the last analysis, the other members decided to brush aside its views, one British official said.

All 12 heads of government had earlier agreed a package of measures to solve the community's most pressing cash problems, staving off a threat of bankruptcy later this year.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl confirmed to reporters that Britain had blocked a docu-

ment aiming to raise more money for the community and give more to its poorer countries, while bringing bloated farm spending under control.

But he described a deal between Germany and France which unblocked talks on this year's farm prices as a triumph for the two countries (See page 7).

The failure to secure unanimous agreement on a set of summit conclusions drew into the open a row which simmered throughout the meeting, a twice-yearly event designed as a showcase for EC unity and cooperation.

Diplomats said Mrs. Thatcher's uncompromising stance infuriated other delegations and prompted Jacques Delors, president of the EC's Executive Commission, to threaten to resign at one stage of the heated debate.

"It's Mrs. Thatcher against the universe," an Irish spokesman said of her summit performance.

Reagan administration officials say plans to place 11 of Kuwait's 22 tankers under the American flag, to allow them U.S. naval protection, are intended purely as a deterrent.

In Geneva, Mr. Larjani said he met Monday with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov to discuss the Gulf war and the "recent very volatile situation" in the Gulf.

The two officials met in Geneva to further discuss "new dimensions" in Iranian-Soviet relations. Mr. Larjani said he declined to elaborate.

Tehran has stepped up attacks on shipping associated with Kuwait this year in retaliation for Kuwait's support for Baghdad in the nearly seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Crown Prince Hassan reaffirms Jordan's commitment to peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to a negotiated peace settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and deplored the ongoing squabble in Israel over the proposed international peace conference in the Middle East.

Prince Hassan, in an address at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London, also criticised the U.S. for not supporting trends in Israel for peace with the Arabs and rejected Secretary of State George Shultz' assertion that "the name of the game is direct negotiations."

"Surely, the name of the game is building a lasting peace, however it is obtained, by direct negotiations or otherwise," Prince Hassan said. "Direct negotiations provide no panacea as Mr. Shultz knows, Lebanon negotiated directly with Israel and the result was a debacle."

The Crown Prince's reference was to the Shultz-brokered May 17, 1985 accord Lebanese President Amin Gemayel signed with Israel for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Lebanese territories. The president had to abro-

gate the agreement against political and military pressure from within the country and Syria.

In his London speech, Prince Hassan briefly outlined various aspects of the current deadlock in efforts for Arab-Israeli peace and reaffirmed Jordan's stand that U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 offered the best framework for a solution to the 40-year-old conflict.

"Despite the multiplicity of conflicts, or should I say because of them, Jordan's belief in the desirability of a just and durable peace has remained unshaken," said the Crown Prince. "Our commitment is total and absolute."

Following are major excerpts from the Crown Prince's address:

The search for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict has been arduous and is long overdue. The Middle East is one of the most important regions in the world in terms of its geo-strategic location and its natural resources. The region has been engaged in an almost futile and self-destructive frenzy of violence and wars for many generations with an evident inability to secure justice for all its peoples and security for all its states. Four decades ago we had to contend with the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Today the tragic and senseless slaughter that has been going on for several years in the Gulf and in Lebanon makes peace an imperative aim, not only for the combatants but

(Continued on page 5)

Waldheim begins 4-day state visit to Jordan today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim arrives in Jordan today on his second visit abroad since his election to the top office a year ago. During his four-day stay, Dr. Waldheim is scheduled to hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders on the latest efforts towards achieving peace in the Middle East.

The visit by Dr. Waldheim and his wife Elisabeth comes at the invitation of the King who was the first leader to visit Dr. Waldheim in Vienna after his election last year. The Austrian leader's visit here follows a meeting with Pope John Paul last week which broke his year-long self-imposed moratorium on visits abroad.

It did not say what type of cargo was aboard the ship, but said the Al Mirkab was on a regular course from the Kuwaiti port of Shuaiba en route to Bahrain, Dubai and Far East ports.

The attack was off Saudi Arabia in an area where similar gunboats — Swedish-built fast launches — hit two supertankers in separate raids last Saturday.

The attacks on Norway's *Mia Margrethe* and the Liberian-flag *Stena Concordia*, which injured a total of seven crewmen, ended a five-week lull in Iran's raids on Gulf shipping.

The fresh attacks, in retaliation for two Iraqi raids on Iranian-linked tankers, have fuelled fears in Washington over U.S. plans to refight some Kuwaiti tankers and boost its naval presence in the region.

In Geneva, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Javad Larjani told a news conference the U.S. military build-up in the Gulf could lead to a full-scale conflict in the region.

The recent military build-up by the United States is a very dangerous course. Who knows who will fire the first shot," he said.

Reagan administration officials say plans to place 11 of Kuwait's 22 tankers under the American flag, to allow them U.S. naval protection, are intended purely as a deterrent.

In Geneva, Mr. Larjani said he met Monday with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov to discuss the Gulf war and the "recent very volatile situation" in the Gulf.

The two officials met in Geneva to further discuss "new dimensions" in Iranian-Soviet relations. Mr. Larjani said he declined to elaborate.

Tehran has stepped up attacks on shipping associated with Kuwait this year in retaliation for Kuwait's support for Baghdad in the nearly seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Austria built close ties with the Arab World under Chancellor Bruno Kreisky between 1970 and 1983. Many Arabs regard Dr. Waldheim highly for his even-handed approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict during his two terms as United Nations secretary-general from 1972 to 1982.

Dr. Waldheim is under fire for his World War II service with the German army in the Balkans. He will also tour the ancient cities of Jerash and Petra and visit the Arab Potash Company plant built by Austria's Voest Alpine company.

In a two-hour interview in Vienna with Jordanian newspaper last week, Dr. Waldheim said: "I am looking forward very much to our talks with His Majesty and the government of Jordan, to discuss, first, direct issues of

(Continued on page 5)

Turkish court annuls conviction of Ammar

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish military court has annulled the conviction of a Jordanian embassy official on a charge of spying, legal sources said Tuesday.

They said the court recently

found the case not proved and it will automatically be reheard.

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Tehran has stepped up attacks on shipping associated with Kuwait this year in retaliation for Kuwait's support for Baghdad in the nearly seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

He recalled that Mr. Shultz had earlier proposed a Maghreb legislature of all countries in the region.

This loose arrangement, known as the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord, is widely seen as a first major step towards the manufacture of car bombs" who was also involved in the hijack of the TWA flight.

W. Germany prepares to try Hamadei

BONN (Agencies) — West Germany has tightened security at borders and airports to guard against possible extremist attacks following a government decision to try a Lebanese hijack suspect for murder, the Interior Ministry said Tuesday.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl rejected last week a U.S. request for the extradition of Mohammad Ali Hamadei, saying West Germany would try him for air piracy and murder in connection with the 1985 hijacking of a Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight to Beirut, during which an American

Two American hostages reportedly smuggled to Iran via Syria, Turkey

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Iranian Revolutionary Guards have smuggled two American hostages from Lebanon to Iran through Syria and Turkey, a Shi'ite Muslim source said Tuesday.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the transfer of the hostages led Syria to restrict travel by Revolutionary Guards across the Lebanon-Syrian border.

The source, who has been reliable in the past, told the Associated Press that the two American captives were "probably Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland."

Anderson, 39, the Beirut-based chief Middle East correspondent for the AP, was kidnapped in mainly Muslim west Beirut on March 16, 1981.

Sutherland, 55, of Fort Collins, Colorado, acting dean of agriculture at AUB, was kidnapped on June 9, 1981, in west Beirut.

Islamic Jihad, a group of radical Shi'ite extremists loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has claimed it holds both Anderson and Sutherland.

The reported transfer, the same source said, took place late in May. The two were first taken from Lebanon to the Iranian embassy in Damascus, the Syrian capital, "in coffins as Revolutionary Guards martyrs killed in action against Israel."

The coffins were driven from east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley to Damascus in a Revolutionary Guards jeep through a military road that crosses the Lebanon-Syrian border, the source said.

"An Iranian embassy car which has a diplomatic license plate transported them from Damas-

cus to Iran via Turkey," he added.

The Syrians, angered by the transfer of the hostages, have banned the estimated 3,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards from using military roads and also imposed restrictions on the trans-border movements of Iranian diplomats in Lebanon and Syria," the source said.

The ban has stripped the Iranian Revolutionary Guards of the privilege to travel in and out of the Bekaa without being stopped at Syrian army checkpoints or border crossing posts.

A second Shi'ite source, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said Iranian embassy cars have been recently thoroughly searched at Syrian border points despite repeated protests from Iranian diplomats who demanded implementation of the traditional diplomatic immunity.

The weekly magazine Ash Shiraa said on June 13 that "some" of the eight American hostages kidnapped in Lebanon have been transferred to Iran, where a five-man panel founded by Khomeini wanted to trade them for American weapons and Iranian funds frozen in U.S. banks.

The magazine, which broke the story of secret U.S. arms sales to Iran in November, said a faction within the Iranian government wanted the American hostages put on trial.

The Iranian Revolutionary

Guards initially came to Lebanon in 1982 to take part in the Jihad, or holy war, against Israel's invading army.

They have since established bases in east Lebanon and the Shi'ite slums of south Beirut and built the fundamentalist Hezbollah, or Party of God, alliance of Iranian-backed militias.

The Hezbollah umbrella, according to Lebanese and Arab security sources, includes fanatic Iraqi deportees of the Daawa Party, Iranian Revolutionary Guards and the Lebanese wing of Daawa, which was founded in the late 1960s by Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah.

Fadlallah is the reputed spiritual guide of Hezbollah. However, he is not influential in the Iranian and Iraqi factions of the alliance, the sources say.

The Syrian government of President Hafez Assad is the main power broker in Lebanon. It maintains 25,000 troops in the Bekaa and northern territories under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the 21-nation Arab League.

Syria also has 7,500 troops deployed in west Beirut since Feb. 22. Syrian soldiers and security agents control Beirut International Airport, which is surrounded by densely populated Shi'ite slums that are traditional strongholds of Iranian-backed factions.

The restrictions on Shi'ite fundamentalists also followed the June 17 kidnapping of American journalist Charles Glass in Beirut's southern suburb of Ouzai, a traditional Hezbollah stronghold.

The Syrian command in Leba-

pon also cancelled the Iranians' firearms permits as part of a campaign to pressure Iranian-backed militants to release Glass, whose abduction marked a serious challenge to Mr. Assad's government.

Glass became the ninth American missing in Lebanon since 1983.

The Hezbollah militia Monday criticised Lebanese leaders who condemned the kidnap of foreigners.

Hezbollah (Party of God) spokesman Ibrahim Al Amin, speaking at an Islamic conference in west Beirut, implicitly called for kidnappers to be supported in an "open battle" with the West.

"We are following the statements of leaders who condemn kidnaping, we find they are more numerous than their statements against Israeli crimes," Amin said.

Some Shi'ite Muslim leaders, including Fadlallah, have said the kidnap of innocent foreigners was contrary to Islamic Law and morality.

Amin said Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had never ruled against the militants who held 52 Americans from the U.S. embassy in Tehran as hostage in 1979-1981.

"We are following the rule that Israel should be removed from existence. It is open battle with Israel and imperialist countries. Our people have the right to face America, France and Israel as they see fit," he added.

"They (our people) might commit mistakes, but it is our duty to support, strengthen and preserve them in confronting Israel," Amin said.

Israel optimistic over ties with Soviets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israel appears convinced that at least low-level diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union are on the way to being restored.

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U.S. preparing final details of plan to allow Egypt to build battle tank

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is negotiating final details of a plan to allow Egypt to assemble U.S.-made components of the American M1-A1 main battle tank in the Middle Eastern country, officials have said.

"We have decided in principle to assist Egypt in some form of co-production of the M1-A1 tank but the modality and details have not yet been decided," said State Department spokesman Charles Redman.

The administration of President Ronald Reagan has not yet notified Congress of the decision, said one Pentagon source, because "we want to get everything worked out before we go up to Capitol Hill and start answering questions."

The plan was already raising questions in Congress, where the chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East said he would try to

block any attempt to manufacture, rather than merely assemble, the tank in Egypt.

"We have the responsibility of preventing a serious mistake from being made," said Representative Tom Lantos, chairman of the subcommittee.

"It would reduce our ability to export, and it could lead to the transfer of sensitive technology," he said.

Mr. Lantos said he had "an open mind on the question," however, and described Egypt as "a good friend" and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as "a force for stability in the Middle East."

Mr. Redman sought to forestall possible opposition to the plan, telling a briefing that "sensitive technologies will be protected and will not be manufactured in Egypt."

Sources familiar with the plan said that it avoided the problems cited by Mr. Lantos by having nearly all the parts manufactured

in the United States and shipped to Egypt for assembly.

The assembly would start as many as 10 years down the road at a plant now being built in Egypt to repair and maintain, starting in 1990, the U.S.-made M-60. General Dynamics is the main contractor for the M-60 and the M-60, and is supplying the machinery for the repair plant.

The Reagan administration has granted a munitions license for co-production of the M-60 to General Dynamics "to discuss co-production of the M-60 in the context of the M-60 rebuild facility now under construction in Egypt," Mr. Redman told reporters.

The Egyptian defense minister, Abd Halim Abu Ghazala, has been pushing for more than a year for permission to either build or assemble the M-60 in Egypt, said State and Defense Department officials.

Sen. Nunn attacks Reagan Gulf policy

WASHINGTON (R) — A key U.S. senator has launched another congressional salvo at the Reagan administration's plan to refit 11 Kuwaiti vessels, warning of a possible U.S.-Iranian confrontation in the Gulf that could turn violent.

Privately, many Israeli officials who would like to see a resumption of Israeli-Soviet ties view Mr. Peres's issuing of exit visas to thousands of Soviet Jews as the conditions for Soviet participation in a Middle East peace conference.

"In proposing the ship protection regime, the administration believed that it could assist and reassure Kuwait without becoming involved in larger regional struggles," Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said in a report.

"This assessment was, however, exceedingly optimistic if not unrealistic," the Georgia Democrat said. "The administration's plan poses substantial risks of a U.S.-Iranian confrontation which could escalate violently and unpredictably."

Kuwait has supported Iraq in its nearly seven-year war with Iran. The United States has professed neutrality in the Gulf war but many legislators fear the

issue in a White House meeting with President Reagan.

Mr. Wright, a Texas Democrat, told reporters the administration had gone ahead with plans to refit the Kuwaiti tankers as U.S. ships without asking congressional leaders for their advice.

Sen. Nunn, the Senate's chief spokesman on military affairs, repeated a call by many other legislators to delay the refitting, due to begin early next month, until what he called a more reasoned policy could be worked out in consultation with the Congress.

He urged the administration to forcefully pursue its initiative in the United Nations Security Council to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war and made the following new proposal:

"The United States should initiate talks with the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France on curtailing arms transfers to Iran."

The United States should initiate a conference of the Gulf's major oil exporters and importers under the auspices of an international organization such as the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Development (OECD). The agenda would seek to ensure the free flow of oil through the Gulf, search for a negotiated end to the Gulf war and promote freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

The United States should explore alternative arrangements with Kuwait, including lease agreements.

The text of the inscription was not made available.

U.S. thanks Bahrain for help in Stark rescue

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — The new skipper of the USS Stark on Tuesday presented the ruler of Bahrain with a plaque thanking this Gulf nation for its help after the May 17 Iraqi missile attack.

The release of the report by Israel's independent state controller coincided with a visit to Washington by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin who will discuss the plane's future with American officials who have tried to persuade Israel to scrap the project.

The United States says Israel cannot afford the Lavi — Hebrew for lion — and would do better to buy American F-16 fighters or co-produce a U.S. plane.

The report said that at almost every stage since the project's inception in 1980 vital decisions were taken "without studying questions of finance, manufacture, export potential and possible alternatives."

The meeting with the ruler,

Former Israeli justice minister dies at 64

HERZLIYA, Israel (R) — Shmuel Tamir, who as justice minister from 1977 to 1980 was involved in drafting an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, has died aged 64, Israel's state radio said.

Tamir is credited with having worked out a key clause guaranteeing Israeli oil supplies from the Sinai peninsula which broke a deadlock in March 1979, enabling the treaty to be signed.

Born in Jerusalem in 1923, Tamir was a commander in Menachem Begin's Irgun terrorist movement that fought in pre-1948 Palestine. He was arrested and deported to Kenya by the British.

His original family name was Katzenbach but he adopted his Irgun nom-de-guerre of Tamir after Israel became independent.

A founder member of Begin's Herut Party, he later moved to small centrist parties.

A lawyer by profession, Tamir became justice minister, a post he held until he resigned in 1980.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

60:40 Cairo, London (BA)

60:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

60:50 Baghdad (RJ)

60:55 Jeddah (RJ)

61:00 Rome (AZ)

61:05 Damascus (TV)

61:20 Cairo (MS)

61:25 Bushehr (RO)

61:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)

61:35 Manama (TV)

61:40 Sanaa (TV)

61:45 Baghdad (IA)

61:50 Karachi (PK)

62:00 Cairo (BA)

62:05 London (BA)

62:10 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

62:15 Jeddah (RJ)

62:20 Rome (AZ)

62:25 Damascus (TV)

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64:15 Damascus (TV)

64:20 Cairo (MS)

64:25 Bushehr (RO)

64:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)

64:35 Manama (TV)

King confers medals on retiring ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred four medals on a number of ambassadors at the Foreign Ministry in recognition of their long service.

The ambassadors, who have been retired, received their medals from Foreign Minister Taher Al Hamoud at a special ceremony held in Amman on Tuesday.

Mr. Taysir Touqan was awarded the Al Kawthar Medal of the Second Order; Mr. Amer Al-Saqqaf, Al Kawthar Medal of the Second Order; Mr. Majed Al-Haj Hassan, Independence Med-

al of the First Order, Dr. Mohammad Al Farra, Independence Medal of the First Order; Mr. Mohammad Al Khourani, Independence Medal of the First Order.

The minister presented Mr. Kamal Hinoud with a token gift because he already had been awarded honorary medals.

In a speech at the ceremony held at the Guest Palace, the minister voiced appreciation for the ambassadors' long service. The ceremony was attended by heads of diplomatic mission and a number of officials.

Saudi minister arrives for talks on agriculture

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Arabia's Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources Abdul Rahman Ibn Abd Al Aziz Al Al Sheikh arrived in Amman Tuesday on a three-day visit to Jordan. He held talks with Mr. Marwan Hinoud, minister of agriculture, on cooperation between Jordan and Saudi Arabia in agricultural affairs.

In a statement upon arrival, Dr. Al Al Sheikh said his visit was aimed at further bolstering Jordanian-Saudi Arabian economic and agricultural cooperation.

Agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Saudi Arabia in the form of exchange of expertise and information and Jordanian experts' participation in implementing Saudi agricultural schemes has so far been very successful, according to Dr. Al Al Sheikh.

The minister, who is accompanied on the visit by a delegation of officials and specialists in agriculture, fisheries and farm management, was greeted upon arrival by Mr. Hinoud and senior

Abdul Rahman Ibn Abd Al Aziz Al Sheikh officials from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Jordan is expected to import some 100,000 tonnes of Saudi wheat this year, up from 35,000 tonnes in 1986, according to Reuters news agency.

Jordanian agricultural exports to Saudi Arabia were worth JD 11.37 million (about \$34 million) last year, and included 109,500 tonnes of fresh vegetables, 43,000 tonnes of citrus fruits and 90,500 head of sheep.

Romania to buy phosphate to lessen trade imbalance

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to sell Romania 700,000 tonnes of raw phosphate in a bid to adjust the balance of trade between the two countries which at present favours Romania. Minister of Planning Tamer Kanaan announced Tuesday upon his return from a visit to Bucharest.

The minister, who headed Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Romanian Economic Committee, said that the meetings, which ended Monday, focused attention on launching joint projects in electricity and energy and on trade exchange.

The two sides discussed joint endeavours for exploring for oil in Jordan and also signed a protocol for organising bilateral cooperation in a number of other fields.

The talks, which started on June 23, covered efforts to expand the work of the Jordan

Petroleum Refinery Company in Zarqa, and to help Jordan promote its mining industry and exploit oil shale, found in abundance in the Lejjoun areas of the Kingdom.

Jordan has huge phosphate and oil shale deposits, but the latter remains unexploited because of the high oil extraction cost.

Jordan imports all its oil from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Recently, exploration rights have been awarded to U.S. and Canadian firms to supplement the Romanian exploration efforts in the Kingdom.

Dr. Kanaan was accompanied on the visit to Romania by representatives of the ministries of industry and trade, and of planning, the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, the Arab Potash Company, the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Natural Resources Authority.

Prince Hassan reaffirms Jordan's commitment to peace

(Continued from page 1)

for the whole world. Despite our apparently uncaring attitude we realise that these conflicts and many others in the region, broadly defined, may provide the flash point that could lead to a dreaded nuclear winter. Regional instability generates greater polarisation between the superpowers and leads to their direct involvement thus compounding the all too familiar war by proxy.

Jonfai's position has been made clear repeatedly. We have firmly supported all peace initiatives to resolve the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We intend to persist in our 'peaceful offensive' until such time as all the parties concerned come to their senses and agree that peace is a far better option than perpetual conflict, terror and war.

The opportunities missed on all sides are numerous. The peace process, from the outset, has been bedeviled by inconsistency and incoherence, inherent contradictions which have brought it to a halt. The basic principle enshrined in U.N. Resolution 242 offers a sound and practical method for the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Stripped of its bare bone it offers the exchange of peace for territory which has been the essential element of all the initiatives and the proposals enunciated thus far. We hold deep misgivings about the Camp David accords, mainly because they shamed the Palestinian cause aside in order to resolve the Egypt-Israel territorial dispute. Yet the fundamental principles of a 'quid pro quo' arrangement was strictly adhered to at Camp David with the conclusion of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

In my perception a peace conference is the only vehicle that would give international legitimacy to the peace process itself, and

Queen graduates class of gifted students

By Najwa Najar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

SALT — The innovative Parallel Education Project established by the Salt Development Corporation (SDC) for gifted students Tuesday held its first graduation ceremony.

Her Majesty Queen Noor presented the 64 students, 43 males and 21 females, with their diplomas after short speeches were delivered by Jafar Shami, chairman of the SDC board, and Abdullah Zaid Al Keilani, dean of Faculty of Education at the University of Jordan and general supervisor of the project.

Of the 64 students, six received awards from the Royal Palace for their overall achievements. All have been part of the programme since it was launched in 1984.

The Parallel Education Project, which is a private programme funded by donations by the inhabitants and descendants of Salt, is the first of its kind in the Kingdom. Its main purpose is the development of the creative and intellectual abilities of gifted students from Salt.

Each year, students entering the secondary level with averages higher than 80 per cent can apply to the programme, said Raja Abd Al Halim Dabbas, a typing teacher at the centre. Ninety students, 60 males and 30 females, were selected according to their results in tests approved by the Ministry of Education.

The unbalanced ratio of males to females "is because more males than females apply for the project even though females tend to have their averages than males," said Ms. Dabbas.

In line with an agreement between the SDC and the University of Jordan, the university supervises the selection of students and



Her Majesty Queen Noor and Jafar Shami, chairman of the Salt Development Corporation, present diplomas to gifted students who graduated from an accelerated school programme set up in Salt. The

teachers and prepares the educational syllabi for the project.

Gaya Arabat, an art teacher, noted that there are presently eight specialised teachers, three of which are males.

Representatives of the SDC

board of directors, the University of Jordan and the Balqa Education Council from a committee which discussed all the procedures with the Ministry of Education.

After the minister's approval, the committee selected qualified full-time and part-time teachers, equipped the centre with education materials and computer terminals and made arrangements for the students' transportation to and from school free of charge.

Each student must take two English, two maths, two Arabic and one science lesson every week. In addition he or she has a choice of two optional activities in art, music, typing, computer, French, electrical skills or sport.

The teachers interviewed

stated that they found the students to be more receptive, quicker at absorbing the information, and showed higher comprehension. "Usually (these) students understand in one lesson what it takes others two lessons to fully comprehend," Ms. Dabbas commented.

The programme seeks not only to develop intellectual and creative abilities, but a sense of self-confidence, special talents, leadership qualities and good citizenship," said Shaker Back, from Noor Al Hussein Foundation, which is a co-sponsor of the programme.

After the ceremonies, Queen Noor chaired a meeting of the SDC and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation boards to make an assessment of the past three years and to exchange views on the projects benefits.

U.S. adds \$60m to import financing project

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) today committed an additional \$60 million to its three-year Commodity Import Programme (CIP). An amended agreement, which brings the total USAID commitment to \$165.5 million, was signed by the Minister of Planning Tamer Kanaan, U.S. ambassador to Jordan, Paul Boeker and the director of USAID in Jordan, Mr. Lewis Reade.

The CIP programme was established in 1985 to provide financing to Jordan's public and private sector importers to enable them to import manufactured goods and raw materials necessary to Jordan's economic development.

JD 10m spa complex to open in August

MA'IN (J.T.) — The Zarqa-Ma'in Spa complex, 58 kilometres south of Amman, will be partially opened for tourists and visitors in August, and will become fully operational in November this year. Mr. Michael Hamzeh, under secretary of the Ministry of Information, announced here Tuesday.

Mr. Hamzeh said that the visit was to enable officials to study the project so that therapeutic treatments can be offered in an organised manner and Health Ministry specialists provided.

Other officials present included Mr. Mansour Ibn Tarif, under secretary of the Ministry of Communications, who said that his ministry was conducting studies to ensure telephone services to the spa before the project is inaugurated in August.

Mr. Sharari Al Najaad, director of public works in Amman region, said that the Ministry of Public Works has opened a 22-kilometre stretch of road linking Madaba with the spa. The road project cost JD 70,000, he said.

Last year, Belgium granted Jordan a JD 2.5 million loan to help finance the complex project.

Work on the project, which began in 1983, had to be suspended several times due to lack of funds.

Jaguar begins 'new era'

By Sama Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jaguar, the British auto manufacturer, today re-launched two of its luxury cars in Jordan, nearly four years after the government here lifted an Arab boycott imposed on the company for operating in Israel.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Jaguar's sales director for overseas, Mr. Nigel Heslop said the launching of the car in Jordan is "a start of a new era." He said that it has taken seven years to produce the XJ6 and Sovereign Jaguars in order to meet the international requirement in quality, safety, and durability.

"We put the past, present and future in the Jaguar. The wood and the leather is the past; the improved suspension system in the present and the latest modern electronic technology is the future," Mr. Heslop said.

He continued to say that during the seven years of building this car, it has been tested in all climates and areas of the world and has driven 8 million kilometres to test its durability.

Jaguar was part of British Leyland several years ago and had operations in Israel. But since it became a private shareholding company, it stopped its opera-

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Welcome Dr. Waldheim

THE Austrian president, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, is due to arrive in Amman today on an official visit that will last for four days. We welcome him, not only as the democratically elected head of a friendly and proud state but also as a statesman who spent the best part of his life defending human rights and working for international peace and prosperity.

During his ten years as U.N. secretary general, and before, as Austria's foreign minister and representative to the U.N. and other world capitals, Dr. Waldheim dedicated himself and exerted tremendous efforts towards bringing East and West, North and South together. He worked tirelessly to consolidate human achievements and to advance understanding among nations and peoples of the earth. This he did in a thoroughly objective and professional manner, not losing sight for one moment of the rights of all nations to live in peace and security, and to make available to smaller, poor states all ways and means to be heard, to express their views freely and to participate in determining their own future and that of humanity.

We in Jordan, as indeed elsewhere in the Arab World and the rest of the international community, had followed his steps on the international scene with keen interest and admiration. His job was very sensitive and never easy. Nonetheless he carried it out with integrity and without lacking the courage or the clarity to enforce the U.N. Charter and the world body's resolutions on international issues.

As it turned out, Dr. Waldheim's views on these issues, and particularly the Palestinian problem, appear to have been a factor in the onslaught against his person that is now being waged by Jewish organisations, Israel and some people in the United States of America. Since the other factors involved in the so-called "controversy over Dr. Waldheim's past" remain under careful study and analysis in Austria, first and foremost, it is not for us here to go beyond stating our conviction that the Austrian president, government and people will soon weather the storm and resume their traditional role in serving the cause of peace, stability and progress in the world.

It is to this end, as well as to further strengthening Austro-Jordanian ties and friendship, that we look to Dr. Waldheim's visit to contribute the most. There is much for Jordan and Austria to do together, and we are both hopeful and confident that the Austrian head of state's trip to Jordan, and his talks with His Majesty King Hussein, will be crowned with success.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Mauritania sets the example

MAURITANIA, which has just announced severing relations with Iran reminds the Arab World of an important duty, that its countries should join forces and back Iraq in its endeavours to defend Arab soil. In the absence of an all-out Arab effort, and the lack of an international formula to end the conflict, efforts by individual Arab states can help isolate Iran and expose its aggressive nature which is bent on continuing the war against the Arab Nation. This war has cost the Iranian and Arab peoples heavy losses in human power and material resources. Jordan has always advocated a unified Arab stand, rejecting all forms of aggression and condemning enemy attempt to occupy Arab territory. Jordan has been seeking strong relations among Arab states and also searching for means to end the war and re-establish normal Arab-Iranian relations based on mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. A concerted Arab effort is required to exercise pressure on Iran and make it refrain from committing further acts of aggression on the Arab countries. Such a stand might pave the way for other pressures from the international community, leading to an end to the conflict in the Gulf. We welcome Mauritania's decision which reflects a nationalist stand and we hope that such a move will make Iran understand the need to stop its war on the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: King reaffirms Jordan's policies

KING Hussein spoke in an interview with Turkish television, reiterating Jordan's firm policies with regard to the problems of the Middle East. His statement about Jordan's position crowned a visit to Turkey intended to offer further service to the Arab cause and to give more momentum to current efforts designed to bring about a just settlement to the Middle East conflict and the Gulf war. The King's interview was meant to bring home to the Turkish public, the facts about the Middle East question and to seek Turkish support for convening an international conference, which serves as the only feasible way for implementing Security Council resolutions on Palestine. The King presented the Arab case and referred to the conflict with Israel as the most serious source of danger threatening world peace. King Hussein also urged Turkey to help bring an end to the Gulf conflict that has sapped the human and material resources of the two neighbouring Muslim nations and destabilised security in the Gulf region. He also dwelt on the question of Turkish-Jordanian ties which he described as based on mutual respect and strong historic links. These elements, he said, are bound to corroborate future cooperation between the two countries.

Sawt Al Shabab: Isolating Iran

MAURITANIA'S decision to sever diplomatic relations with Iran will not be the last such Arab or Islamic step. The move was motivated by Mauritania's feeling that Tehran's rulers and their practices have been causing danger to peace and their relations with other countries are based on aggression. These rulers, ever since they came to power, have turned against their own people, causing so much suffering and misery in Iran. They have set their attention on aggression and on launching attacks on their Arab neighbours, something which they have continued until this moment. Jordan was the first among Arab and Islamic countries to realise the misleading slogans of the Iranian rulers and their lust for dominating neighbouring countries. These rulers have turned down all bids by regional and international organisations to bring peace to the Gulf and closed their ears to calls for the establishment of brotherly relations with the Arab countries. Mauritania's move reflects that country's full understanding of the real intentions of the Iranian rulers. Let us hope that cutting relations with Tehran and the isolation of Iranian rulers will help bring them back to their senses to make them respond to the call of reason.

Peace and U.S. interests in the Middle East

By Richard Murphy

The writer is U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian Affairs. The following is the text of an address he delivered to the Foreign Policy Association in New York on June 25.

It is a distinct privilege for me to be at the Foreign Policy Association and to discuss American policy in the Middle East with this knowledgeable audience.

War and peace in the Middle East region are issues that face us daily. Our overall goal is peace. We seek negotiated settlements to regional conflicts and a reduction in tensions and confrontations. America's interests are best served by regional stability; that is peace between Israel and its neighbours, a resolution of the Lebanese tragedy and an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

On the other hand, increased instability in the Middle East provides the Soviet Union, and others who would like to increase their regional influence at the expense of our own, with opportunities to exploit the situation.

During my more than three and half years as assistant secretary of state, we have sought to confront these instabilities by strengthening the U.S. relationship with our friends in the Middle East. Much of our attention has focused on the Arab-Israeli peace process and the Gulf — two issues which I would like to explore with you today.

Middle East peace process

The Gulf may grab headlines, but the goal of a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace remains a critical and ongoing priority for this administration. Some critics of our efforts say that we are at a stalemate. On the Arab side, they claim Syria's often less than positive role and the lack of consensus between King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat combine to block any creation of a united Jordanian-Palestinian delegation on peace talks.

Meanwhile the ongoing political debate in Israel and absence of a united Israeli position on a peace conference, likewise preclude substantive movement towards negotiations.

These critics tend to overlook some important facts. Since the March, 1979 signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, we have worked on a virtually continual basis with the key parties in the region to try to find a generally acceptable negotiating scenario. While negotiations have thus far proved elusive, there have been steady signs of improvement in the regional atmosphere. Among the most recent:

— The Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty is intact.

— Israel and Egypt have agreed on an arbitration mechanism to resolve this dispute over a geographically small but politically important piece of territory in the Sinai.

— Egypt itself is steadily regaining its leadership role in the Arab World while maintaining its relationship with Israel.

— The public meeting between King Hassan of Morocco and Prime Minister Peres provided only the most muted criticism in the Arab World.

— King Hussein's quest for an acceptable framework for negotiations with Israel receives broad support throughout the region.

In other words, the key question in the Arab World today is "how" — not "whether" — to negotiate a peace settlement.

Over the past two and a half years, our own efforts have concentrated on how to bring Israel and its Arab neighbours to the negotiating table. We would have preferred to bring about direct peace talks without involving the international community. The issues to be negotiated are complex enough without the added complication of a number of outside players. However, King Hussein has consistently maintained that Jordan cannot move to bilateral negotiations with Israel without some visible legitimising support from the international community.

So, we've come reluctantly to the view that an international conference might provide the

On the proposed international Middle East peace conference, "all parties now agree that: A conference will invite the parties to form geographical, bilateral negotiating committees; a conference cannot impose solutions or veto agreements reached bilaterally; Palestinian representatives will participate in face-to-face negotiations within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation; participants in the negotiations will be expected to accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to renounce terrorism and violence."

vehicle for bringing the parties together. We are insisting, however, that having launched the parties on face-to-face bilateral negotiations, the conference must then in no way interfere with their efforts. It must neither impose its views on them nor veto their agreement.

The significant progress over

the past six months of the effort to move towards direct, face-to-face, peace negotiations underlines the positive direction that behind-the-scenes diplomacy has taken.

Let us review the common ground that has emerged from our quiet but intensive diplomatic activity:

All parties now agree that:

— A conference will invite the parties to form geographical, bilateral negotiating committees;

— A conference cannot impose solutions or veto agreements reached bilaterally;

— Palestinian representatives will participate in face-to-face negotiations within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation;

— Participants in the negotiations will be expected to accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to renounce terrorism and violence.

There are still some difficult

questions ahead and the road to

negotiations remains rocky. But

we will persevere.

Any Soviet role in the peace

process must be linked to a demon

stration of constructive

Soviet behaviour. We have yet to

see such behaviour on their part.

For example, we don't view their

role in encouraging a PLO reunification as constructive. The ex

treme positions on peace taken by

the PLO at its conference in

Algiers are not encouraging. The

Soviet relaxation of Jewish

emigration quotas is a move in

the right direction, but it is not

enough. Soviet Jews must be

given the right to emigrate, if

they wish, and those who remain

must be permitted to worship

freely. When I meet with my

Soviet counterpart early next

month, I will press our position

on these and other issues.

We have consistently stated

that Palestinians must be in

volved at every stage of the pro

cess: they should be represented

in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian

delegation. However, since the

Arab World in 1974 proclaimed

the PLO as the sole, legitimate

representative of the Palestinian

people, the PLO has not come to

grips either with the reality of

Israel or with the need for peace

negotiations based on resolution

242 as the only road to a

peaceful future. The PLO has not

yet shown that they are qualified

to enter the peace process.

Israel is divided over how best

to advance the process of peace.

Some Israelis understand the

cautious approach we are taking

towards an international confer

ence. Other Israelis do not see

the conference route as a viable

alternative. The Israelis will have

to consider the issue carefully and

make their own decisions, and we

will not interfere in their internal

deliberations.

But we will continue our efforts

to develop an approach, accept

able to all the parties, that will

allow them to negotiate peace.

Failure to advance the cause of peace will not be due to any lack of effort on our part. We must see this effort through — with good will and creativity on all sides it can work.

U.S. Gulf policy

For over a month now, issues relating to American interests and presence in the Gulf have been exhaustively discussed in the media and in the Congress. Some people question the manner in which we are pursuing our national interest in the area; others doubt the motivation behind our decision to refuel Kuwaiti tankers; and some question our decision-making process, accusing us of a merely knee-jerk reaction to the increasing Soviet role and presence in the Gulf.

At the end of 1986 when Kuwait asked us to help protect half of its tanker fleet, we knew of their prior approach to the Soviets. Had we not been prepared to refuel and protect these 11 ships, the Soviets would have done so. Clearly, America's long-term interest is not served by an increased Soviet presence and influence, not only for its effect on Kuwait, but on its fellow members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. An expansion of the Soviet role in the Gulf would be a major strategic setback, which would be difficult — if not impossible — to reverse. We consider that since the Soviet Union, in contrast to the free world, is not dependent on Gulf oil, their long-term objective is to gain political influence at our expense. Do we want to see the Soviet Union at some point interdicting the strategic sea lanes of the Gulf? Will American interests be served if the Soviets or an Iranian regime hostile to the U.S. determine who has access to the Gulf oil?

By early March when President Reagan decided that the United States would protect the refuelled Kuwaiti oil tankers, administration experts had thoroughly reviewed the political and military options available to us. In mid-March, we began the process of consultation with the Congress. Then on May 7 came the unexpected and accidental attack on the USS Stark which focused public attention on the U.S. presence in the Gulf and the potential for increased risks to U.S. personnel.

The recent report to the Con

gress on "security arrangements in the Gulf" reviews the issues

thoroughly, assesses the risks, and details U.S. intentions. Be

cause we consider that American

forces will not be involved in

"imminent hostilities" in the Gulf

and the clearly non-provocative

nature of our presence and protec

tion, the administration has

determined that invocation of

War Powers is not appropriate.

But we have assured Congress

that we monitor the situation

closely, and we will continue our

frequent and detailed consulta

Depression book strikes a chord amid U.S. stock market boom

By Richard Srazen
Reuter

NEW YORK — Economist Ravi Batra, author of a book predicting a second great depression, says the main clue for his gloomy forecast is that the rich are getting wealthier as well as wealthier.

"People are buying \$40 million paintings, and you have homeless running the streets," Batra said.

Batra — whose book *The Great Depression of 1990*, was toned down as unmarketable in the early 1980s, but then published privately and just issued in revised form by major publisher Simon and Schuster — said such sharp social divides arise from a very alarming economic fact.

The concentration of wealth is now at the highest level since 1929. One per cent of the population now owns 34 per cent of the wealth, the highest since 1929, when one per cent owned 36 per cent.

"The handwriting is on the wall for all to see," the professor from Southern Methodist University in

Dallas told Reuters, pointing to growing similarities between the 1920s and the 1980s.

The Indian-born scholar predicts that a crash will be touched off by the rich, who will create a speculative bubble in the financial markets with their spare cash.

The poor and middle class, meanwhile, will borrow more and more heavily to get by. This will undermine the banking system, just as it did in the 1920s.

Washington's policies are compounding the problem, he said.

"The government, with its big deficits, is saying 'we'll borrow money for you,'" he said. "They are sealing the fate of the future."

In Batra's scenario, the crash, when it comes, will begin in Japan, whose massive stock market rally makes Wall Street's historic advance this year look like a healthy little blip, he said. Stock prices versus earnings there are three times as high as in the U.S. market.

The depression Batra foresees would be global in nature.

"It's spooky," said Batra of the

similarities between the 1920s and the present.

His book has been reviewed in the New York Times, the Boston Globe and other newspapers, generally favourably.

"He writes about his subject as clearly as if he were telling bedtime stories, nightmarish though they may be," a New York Times reviewer said.

Harry A. Jacobs, Jr., senior director of Prudential Bache Securities Inc., said: "Batra's book dramatically reinforces my own deepest worries about the economy. I foresee a worldwide convulsion caused by the obscene federal budget deficit, the enormous trade deficit and the purchase of a worrisome amount of our federal and state bonds by the Japanese. It endangers us all."

A Morgan Stanley report said:

"Batra's evidence in support of his theory is impressive. His analysis of the causes of depressions also makes a lot of sense."

Batra hit upon the idea of the coming crash by studying the cycles of money growth and inflation.

He discovered that money growth peaks every 30 years, and a recession or a full-blown depression will always follow a decade or so later. The seeds of the 1990 depression were down by the late 1970s inflation.

Borrowing Indian scholar Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's broad theory of social and historical cycles, he works out a formula for a financial crash at the end of this decade.

While writing the book in 1982, Batra predicted the stock market rally that has already taken place. He said it would mirror the 1920s. It would run through 1989, then there would be a 1929-style crash.

Since he made this prediction he has been joined by other economists who find frightening similarities between the 1920s and the 1980s. A stock market boom matched by just average economic growth, a heavy wave of mergers, low wage-and-price increases at the heels of double-digit inflation and conservative pro-business politics.

Simon and Schuster said Batra's book has been in demand. "It's an idea whose time has come. I have overcome some of the negative publicity and irate responses," said Batra.

Even Batra says that, while the events are historically deter-

mined, the nightmare could be avoided. If the federal government imposes a property tax for the rich, this would reduce market speculation and cut the nation's budget deficit, avoiding a crash, he said.

"I say, let's prevent a crash," said Batra.

Still, he gives detailed instructions on how the individual investor should proceed. He suggests buying stocks from now until 1989, when the Dow will be at 3,000, and then selling — stocks, corporate bonds and real estate.

He recommends that some cash should be brought home and put in safe hiding places, and some should be used to purchase a supply of gold. In this depression, he cautions, chaos could be even greater, given the level of social disintegration that has taken place since the 1930s.

He says it is unlikely that governments will come up with a plan to avert a collapse, but adds, "I don't believe that anything is impossible."

Flood of tourists overwhelms Soviet facilities

By Carl J. Williams
The Associated Press

the rooms in Moscow are under Intourist or government management and therefore unavailable for ordinary Soviets.

About 60 per cent of the foreigners who visit the Soviet Union each year are from Socialist countries. It used to be 80 per cent, according to Nikolai N. Donskov, deputy director of Intourist's American department.

U.S. tourism to the Soviet Union took its biggest leap ever in 1985, when the number of visitors jumped 30 per cent to about 100,000, he said. The number of American visitors dipped slightly last year because of Chernobyl, but is now rising, according to Lebedev.

Visits by Finns, West Germans, Britons and Japanese are also climbing from year to year. Americans travel patterns seem to ebb and flow with the political climate of Intourist.

"One reason we came on this trip was because it was quite reasonable," said Carl Richard, an American, who bought a two-week tour of Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union this month for less than \$1,700 including airfare, hotels and meals.

However, like most foreign travel, the cost of Soviet tourism can vary broadly depending on group size and quality of accommodation.

Intourist's style is collective, with the vast majority of tourists arriving in large groups that are shunted around in buses, fed together at restaurants closed to Soviets and housed in spartan hotels.

Straying from the group is permitted, but visitors who don't speak Russian tend to stay close to the pack and Intourist usually puts together a programme that is both demanding enough to satisfy the visitor's curiosity and includes little time for wandering.

Ms. Vershchova said the Intourist expansion programme envisons new services designed to attract more westerners. Some of the planned improvements have a distinctly Soviet flavour.

What she called "cable television" will be introduced in most Intourist hotel rooms by the end of the decade. It will offer taped performances of folk dancing, political discussions, local entertainment and art tours.

This summer, Intourist comes under a new form of administration dictated by one of Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's economic reforms. The agency in the past was given a budget by the state irrespective of its earnings.

Under the new "self-financing" system, the agency's 70,000 employees must be paid out of tourism income, and future expansion will depend on generating sufficient profits.

Both Lebedev and Donskov declined to estimate Intourist's annual hard-currency earnings, describing the agency's economic situation as a "commercial secret." But future endeavours, whether hotels or restaurants, will be hinged on whether they are cost-effective.

Stone-age animal stampedes: New insights on Neandertals

By Donald J. Frederick

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Over centuries of Paleolithic time 30,000 to 70,000 years ago, our Neandertal ancestors stampeded thousands of bison, reindeer, and horses off a 66-foot cliff at La Quina, in southwestern France.

On the valley floor below, the animals were butchered for their meat, hides, and bones. At first, most of the meat probably was consumed in campsites near the cliff. Later, the hunters hauled their kills up to a small shelter just below the cliff's top.

"It's the first time we've been able to show that the Neandertals engineered these game drives in Europe," says Arthur J. Jelinek, professor of anthropology at the University of Arizona.

Broad new insights

"Even more important, it's the first real glimpse of a whole range of Neandertal activities that took place at one location. We are seeing how they lived, how they fueled their fires, how they butchered and killed animals," Jelinek says.

The careful synchronisation of all these activities at La Quina indicates that the Neandertals

had a higher level of social organisation while pursuing game than has previously been thought."

Jelinek and his fellow scientists are gaining new insights into Neandertal life from the numerous large animal bones — some bearing cut marks from stone tools — millions of pieces of burned bone, and a child's tooth bearing strange abrasions, at the site in a small valley in the rolling hills about 60 miles northeast of Bordeaux.

Directed by Jelinek, Andre Debeath of the University of Bordeaux, and Harold L. Dibble, an anthropologist at the University of Pennsylvania, the work at La Quina has been supported by their institutions, the National Geographic Society, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and the French National Museum of Antiquities.

Far more intelligent than the lumbering cavemen portrayed by cartoonists, Neandertals first appeared in Europe about 125,000 years ago and disappeared about 30,000 years ago. During this relatively short span, the Neandertals spread all across Europe, the Middle East, and western and central Asia.

Their skeletal remains were discovered in 1856 near Dussel-

dorf, West Germany, in the Neander Valley (Tal, or Thal in 19th-century German).

They weren't much different from humans today, although more robust. Their somewhat primitive features were deceiving. Despite Neandertal's sloping foreheads, their average brain was even larger than today's human brain, and just as well developed.

Several of the tools — scrapers, small hand axes, and choppers — found at La Quina show the skill with which they were shaped in Mousterian style, a name derived from a cave at Dordogne, France.

These Paleolithic toolmakers carefully chipped off the outer layer of stone in several stages before striking off the finished product. Among the tools found at La Quina was a small hand axe that might have been used to butcher animals.

Stone tools also might have had something to do with the child's tooth found at the site.

"It came from a 5- or 6-year-old and showed a curious amount of wear," says Jelinek. "Some adult teeth found at other Neandertal sites around the world also show abnormal amounts of wear, so it

seems apparent that his child was doing something that adults did on a regular basis."

Fred B. Smith, an anthropologist professor at the University of Tennessee, noted that Neandertals sometimes used their teeth to retouch stone tools, or as vises. "I wouldn't be surprised if this child was simply imitating its parents or helping with the family chores," he says.

The wear also might have been related to an activity still commonly practised by Eskimos, according to the scientists: The Neandertals held hides with their front teeth as they worked on them.

Jelinek sees further evidence of Neandertal adaptability in the myriad bits of burnt bone at La Quina. "In breaking up the bones and using them as fuel, they

showed how to maximise the use of fuel source," he says.

Yet another insight into the lives of these prehistoric forebears came from the careful burials of some Neandertals, suggesting recognisably human emotions on the part of their survivors. In one La Quina area, flowers had been cast into the graves of carefully positioned individuals.

House produced the entire high command of the U.S. national security apparatus to support the announcement that the operation would go ahead — Mr. Shultz, Mr. Weinberger, Mr. Webster, National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci, and Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Fitzwater said U.S. strategy to protect its interests in the Gulf — the industrial world's main oil artery — would continue to focus on the need to bring the Iran-Iraq war to the earliest possible negotiated end with no winner and no loser.

He said the United States wanted the U.N. Security Council to meet before mid-July to pass a strong, comprehensive resolution including a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Africa seeks a road to recovery

Patrick Smith attended a United Nations conference on recovery in Africa. He assesses moves towards economic reform across the continent.

LAGOS — African countries should continue to pursue structural economic reforms, while pressing the international community for more flexibility on debt repayments and seeking to expand the intra-African and international market for their products. Delegates propounded these at the United Nations conference on economic commission for Africa conference on economic recovery in Africa.

The five-day conference was held at Nigeria's new capital, Abuja. It was aimed at reviewing progress on the implementation of the U.N. programme of action for African recovery and development from 1986 to 1990.

It attracted more than 200 African and international experts, government officials and policy-makers from 36 countries, as well as representatives from the U.N., the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and non-governmental organisations.

While the conference had no policy-making powers, its recommendations are to be forwarded to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit at Addis Ababa in August and the scheduled special session on Africa at the U.N. assembly in September.

The programme, launched on Africa June, focused on the restructuring of Africa's agricultural policies to promote increased food production, the build-up of agriculturally-based industries, reversal of the effects of drought and desertification, and wide-ranging reforms of the region's educational and occupational training provision.

These objectives were to be underpinned by an international-supported programme of market-oriented economic reforms. About 28 African countries have embarked on substantial structural economic reform, the communiqué said.

The cost of the U.N. programme was estimated last June to be \$12.1 billion, of which African countries are expected to raise \$2.5 billion. The international

King confers with Iraqi leader

(Continued from page 1)

the warfront, Petra said.

The agency said President Hussein assured the King of the high morale of the Iraqi armed forces and their readiness to defend Arab soil.

Both leaders also discussed developments in the regional and international scenes, Petra said.

The King's visit to Baghdad was believed to be part of his efforts to reconcile the leaderships of Syria and Iraq. He visited Damascus on June 24 and held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

The executive secretary of the commission, Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, said that conditions in Africa had worsened considerably over the past year. Africa's earnings from commodity exports in 1986 had fallen by \$19 billion, compared with their level in 1985.

Mr. Adedeji said, while the cost of the region's imported manufactures rose an average 14 per cent.

In spite of continuing debt rescheduling negotiations, the region's debt-servicing commitment would total between \$12 billion to \$14 billion, he said. If these economic trends continued, the level of international financing required for the U.N. programme could almost double to \$30 billion, Mr. Adedeji said.

Mr. Mansour Khalid, vice-chairman of the U.N.'s world commission on environment and development and former foreign minister of Sudan, was sharply critical of the IMF and World Bank role in Africa. "The fund and the bank's reform programmes cannot work without a total renegotiation of economic and political relations between the north and the south," he said.

Austria supports Jordan's call for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The campaign by the World Jewish Congress and other Zionist groups to discredit Dr. Waldheim began after he announced his candidacy to Austria's top post in 1985. But no document incriminating the Austrian leader have yet been produced — two years after the slander campaign.

The Oslo-based Nobel Prize Committee has recently nominated Dr. Waldheim for the Nobel Prize for Peace in appreciation of his efforts towards world peace.

U.S. to go ahead with plan

(Continued from page 1)

Shultz also defended the decision, saying the United States was taking the action to support its allies in the region, and "basically in opposition to an increased role" for the Soviet Union in the strategically vital region.

Mr. Reagan did not appear in the White House briefing room after the high-level meeting, but he dispatched his senior civilian and military advisers to explain the decisions he has made.

Fitzwater said the United States was asking the U.N. Security Council to seek an end to the Iran-Iraq war, "including international post-war reconstruction efforts."

Underscoring the political importance Mr. Reagan attaches to public support for his plan to protect Kuwaiti ships, the White

House produced the entire high command of the U.S. national security apparatus to support the announcement that the operation would go ahead — Mr. Shultz, Mr. Weinberger, Mr. Webster, National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci, and Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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INDIAN RESTAURANT

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EVERY DAY

Evert, Sabatini, Kohde-Kilsch, Cash advance at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Three-time champion Chris Evert and 17-year-old Gabriela Sabatini struggled through second-set letdowns against unseeded opponents to advance to the women's quarterfinals at Wimbledon Tuesday.

Evert, the third seed, wasted three match points on her serve before reaching the quarterfinals for the fourth consecutive year and the 15th time in 16 appearances at Wimbledon with a 6-2, 7-5 victory over Ros Fair-

bank of South Africa.

Sabatini, seeded sixth, became a quarterfinalist for the second year in a row, beating 16-year-old Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union, the defending junior champion, 6-0, 2-6, 6-4.

Moving into the final eight with much more ease were Stefan Edberg, Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, Pat Cash and Diane Ballestrat.

Edberg, the men's fourth seed from Sweden, dropped a set for the first time in the tournament before beating Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland 6-3, 6-7, 6-1, 6-4.

Kohde-Kilsch, the women's eighth seed from West Germany, beat 11th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist 6-4, 6-2. It's the first time in seven Wimbledon appearances that Kohde-Kilsch has reached the quarterfinals. She will play Evert next.

Cash, the men's 11th seed and a quarterfinalist a year ago, beat Guy Forget of France 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

Make friends with OLD PARR Best De Luxe

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Old Parr

Tour de France kicks off today

WEST BERLIN (R) — The 74th Tour de France opens here Wednesday with the possibility of another English-speaking triumph stronger than ever.

Last year American Greg Lemond made the breakthrough. Although he is sidelined this time, following a hunting accident, there are at least four men capable of staging a follow-up triumph in the world's most important cycle race.

But the effects of last week's rain, which washed out almost 2½ days worth of play, still were being felt. To try to wipe out the backlog, officials scheduled all 16 fourth-round matches on Tuesday.

Following Sabatini and Zvereva onto centre court were the men's eighth and ninth seeds. Andres Gomez of Ecuador against Henri Leconte of France. Two-time champion Jimmy Connors, the seventh seed from the United States, then played unseeded Mikael Pernfors.

Peter Doohan, who conquered titleholder Boris Becker in four sets last week, needed five to beat a qualifier at the Wimbledon tennis championships Monday.

The 26-year-old Australian, who leaped from obscurity to prominence on Friday, hung on well after a bad start and finally overtook American Leif Shiras 6-7, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 12-10.

win five Tours de France.

For Ireland's Kelly one tour triumph would suffice for now. He ranks world number one but his eminent record in 10 professional years lacks a world title and, more importantly, victory in one of the three major tours.

He came close this year in the Tour of Spain. Four days from the finish the farmer's son from Carrick on Suir was race leader but had to quit because of a cyst on his behind.

Anderson, from Melbourne, held the race lead for nine days in his debut year, and has twice finished fifth.

Contender number four could be Andy Hampsten. The man from Boulder, Colorado, was fourth last year — his tour debut — and that after helping team-mate Lemond to victory.

France have yet to find a successor to the retired Hinault. Laurent Fignon has not recaptured the promise of the mid-eighties when he twice won the tour.

Roche's Italian triumph is a powerful pointer and the Dubliner, third in the 1985 tour, is ambitious to join the elite few who have won the tours of Italy and France in the same year.

This double has twice fallen to Bernard Hinault (France), Eddy Merckx (Belgium) and Fausto Coppi (Italy), and once to Frenchman Jacques Anquetil, who, like Merckx and Hinault, is a member of another exclusive club. They are the only men to

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6090/6100	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3228/33	Canadian dollar
	1.8295/8305	West German marks
	2.0595/0605	Dutch guilders
	1.5200/10	Swiss francs
	37.94/97	Belgian francs
	6.1050/1100	French francs
	1326/1327	Italian lira
	147.00/10	Japanese yen
	6.3875/3925	Swedish crowns
	6.7075/7125	Norwegian crowns
	6.9425/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	446.60/447.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices tended to drift down throughout the session as institutional investors continued to reserve funds for the growing batch of rights issues and the forthcoming British Airports Authority flotation.

Dealers said volume was low with the majority of investors happy to square positions in the absence of fresh factors and at the turn of the half year.

GEC added 6p to 248 after annual figures which showed a 23 per cent increase in final dividend but lower than expected pretax profits of £668 million against market forecasts of around £680 million and £701 million in the previous year.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was down 0.5 points at 2,288.8.

Equities took little incentive from the firmer trend of U.K. government bonds which was due to the pound's stronger performance against both the dollar and the mark. Longer dated gilts gained well over 1/2 point while sterling was five basis points up at 72.3 in trade weighted terms and U.K. money market rates were steady.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will find new ways to handle matters of importance to you. Patience and cleverness will be necessary to cope with delays and sudden pressures.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Although difficult, persevere and handle private affairs. Put off favors for your mate to avoid difficulties.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Allow time for delays in obtaining your wishes. Don't bring up moot points with friends, try to harmonize.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Handle your public duties conscientiously. To show your superiors you have tact, talk less and listen more.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Mull over new plans before getting involved. Get facts on a newcomer before making any judgments.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Easy-looking problems have strings attached, so be careful. Be honest in answering questions from your mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sep. 22) Keep a chat with your partner impersonal to reach an accord. If your reputation is at stake, stay uninvolved.

LIBRA (Sep. 23 to Oct. 22) Handle routine tasks more efficiently. Act amused at a co-worker's mood swings, then you'll get along well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Put your creative ideas to work, allowing for delays. Show patience with your mate's moods and drive carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) The weather will affect home affairs: pleasant one moment, bad the next. Have only cheerful guests into your home.

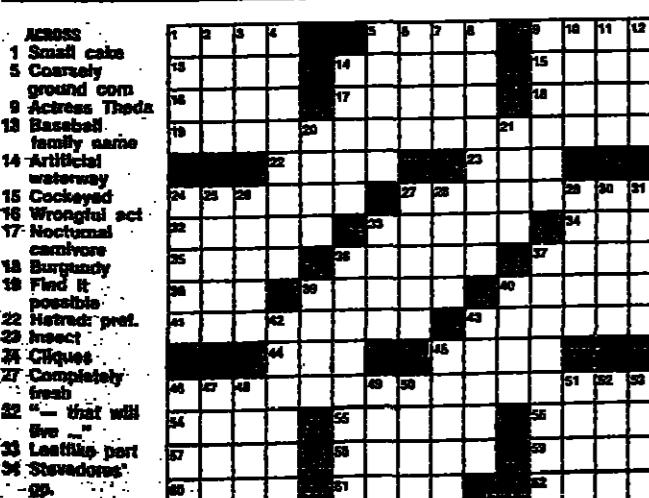
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) The morning will start smoothly, but be careful handling later situations. Visit friends, but drive carefully.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Money matters take priority today, so use common sense. Advice from a scheming elder could cause trouble.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Handle personal goals, and don't feel others are against you. Friends may be sulky over private matters.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be artistic and sensitive. Teach your child to be objective and to accept criticism. With this ability, your son or daughter will excel in any job requiring precision and perception. Discipline should not be harsh, and good food is very important.

THE Daily Crossword



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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THE Daily Crossword

by Evelyn Bensoff

ACROSS

1 Small cake

5 Coarsely ground corn

9 Actress Theda

12 Bassoon

14 Artificial waterway

15 Cockeyed

16 Wrongful act

17 Nocturnal

18 Bumfuzz

19 Flea

22 Hatred; prof.

23 Insect

25 Cynical

26 " — that will

28 Lasting part

30 Stowaways

32 Pond

34 Adjective

35 US carlot

36 Literary form

38 Resources

40 Plotting

42 Path, track

44 Marsh bird

46 No good

48 Co-op

50 Melody

52 Urgency

54 Time, period

56 Short, dry

58 Cuckoo

60 Century plant

62 Pardon

64 Mechanic

66 Final authority

68 Surplus water

70 Early Ross.

72 Skater Holden

74 Divine

76 Swiss city

78 Stress

80 Therefore

82 Seed covering

84 Gamers

86 Surplus water

88 Hitter

90 Contract

92 Dry

Chun set to accept democratic reforms; Kim urges vigilance

SEOUL (Agencies) — President Chun Doo Hwan gives a crucial television address Wednesday with all the signs he will accept his party's call for radical democratic reforms, but top dissident Kim Dae-jung sounded a note of caution by saying South Koreans must stay vigilant.

Mr. Kim, the president's most prominent critic, told official of an opposition coalition group Tuesday he hoped a neutral cabinet with figures from both ruling and opposition camps would be formed to oversee elections and democratic reforms until Mr. Chun steps down next February.

"It is fortunate that the ruling party has come up with democratic proposals which meet the people's wishes. But the public should not loosen their vigilance over the current government before full democracy is achieved," the 63-year-old former presidential candidate said.

"I believe a neutral cabinet, if it is set up, will help ensure the holding of free and fair elections and the smooth transition of power," he said.

A presidential spokesman said Mr. Chun Tuesday met Roh Tae-Woo, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), who Monday announced a wide-

ranging blue print for democracy including direct elections for a new president.

Mr. Roh, the man chosen by Mr. Chun to succeed him when the president steps down, has said he will resign his party post and the presidential candidacy if Mr. Chun rejects his proposals.

Mr. Chun conferred behind closed doors at the presidential mansion for 70 minutes with Mr. Roh.

Mr. Roh said after the Tuesday meeting that Mr. Chun had responded "affirmatively."

Mr. Roh said Mr. Chun "accepted in principle" all of the demands.

"Since basic agreement has been reached on the form of government structure, talks on other matters will proceed smoothly," Mr. Roh told reporters.

Mr. Chun is due to make a televised speech Wednesday morning from the presidential

palace. The spokesman said he was expected to accept Mr. Roh's proposals, which had a bombshell effect on both dissident and establishment leaders by embracing virtually all the opposition's demands.

"You should recall the fact that President Chun has already delegated rights and responsibility to Chairman Roh Tae-Woo for dealing with political affairs," the spokesman added.

Under the terms of Mr. Roh's package, Mr. Chun would grant an amnesty and restore civil rights to Mr. Kim who has been banned from politics since 1980 because of a suspended sentence for sedition.

If it becomes a reality, the amnesty would in theory free Mr. Kim to run for president and could put him in direct competition with his opposition twin Kim Young-Sam.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung Monday reaffirmed a pledge not to run for the presidency if Mr. Chun permits a direct presidential poll.

"My goal is to achieve the democratisation of this country and my wish is to cooperate with the people to that end. I am not interested in becoming presi-

dent," Mr. Kim was quoted by his aides as saying.

Among other major proposals by Mr. Roh, the package calls for the release of most political prisoners, a guarantee of human rights and press freedom.

With the streets of Seoul and other major cities quiet after almost three weeks of violent clashes between riot police and demonstrators, the country's 120,000 policemen were Tuesday taken off red alert.

A reshuffle of the DJP is expected later this week after key party members resigned Monday to give Mr. Roh a free hand in restructuring the party in preparation for a presidential poll expected later this year, party officials said.

Mr. Roh's announcement Monday sparked jubilation in South Korea and was praised by a top U.S. official as a breakthrough that could lead to total democracy.

Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, who visited South Korea last week at the height of anti-government protests in Seoul and other major cities, said in a television interview he would be surprised if Mr. Chun did not accept the proposals of his own party.

Moscow parliament adopts economic law

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet parliament voted Tuesday to loosen central control of the economy in a law that Soviet experts have billed as one of the country's most important acts of economic legislation since the 1920s.

The Supreme Soviet passed the law unanimously on the second day of a brief summer session in Moscow. Its adoption was made certain last week when the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee approved a draft version.

The law, which will come into effect next January, foresees a reduction in the powers of Moscow-based economic ministries over industrial enterprises and seeks to make factory managers more profit-conscious and responsive to market trends.

At the same time the law aims to enhance the role of the State Planning Committee Gosplan in charting the country's long-term economic course and envisages only a limited degree of competition between enterprises for state contracts.

The law is central to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's efforts to revive the economy. Official accounts of the Central Committee's meeting made clear its more ambitious elements were opposed by bureaucrats with a vested interest in centralisation.

Reform-minded economists have compared the scope of the law to the far-reaching changes

Czech dissidents denounce secrecy in murder case

VIEENNA, Austria (AP) — The Charter 77 human rights group has strongly criticised a lack of news coverage and official secrecy following the murder of a waiter in Prague by what it says were two state security officers.

It said the two officers tried to escape but were held by some people and later by police.

In view of their status, said Charter 77, it was "more important for the public to be informed of the incident, how the investigation is progressing and eventually of court proceedings.

The dissident group also said the brevity of the newspaper report on the murder of the waiter was in sharp contrast with the nature of the case.

Charter 77 called for a parliamentary inquiry to find out how the investigation of the case is proceeding and why it is kept secret.

According to Palach Press, the group said, the results of the investigating parliamentary committee and the discussions in parliament which would follow should be officially published.

It also called for a public trial of the two security officers.

N. Zealand to vote on Aug. 15

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand's two main political parties Tuesday flung themselves into campaigning for elections on Aug. 15, but despite the sound and fury they appeared to be saying much the same things.

The economy and law and order were shaping up as the leading issues, with the Labour Party boasting about its performance over the last three years and the opposition National Party snapping back at anyone who suggested its policies mirrored those of the government.

The party is running 26 points ahead of National in the latest public opinion poll, bolstered by growing acceptance of its radical economic reforms which have led the government to forecast the first budget surplus for 35 years as well as the first repayments on foreign debt for decades.

Panama's assembly lifts state of emergency

LONDON (R) — Panama's legislative assembly Tuesday lifted a 19-day-old state of emergency imposed to quell violent anti-government protests, Panama City Radio said.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the assembly had passed the resolution because the danger of an overthrow of the government had "decreased considerably."

The government declared the state of emergency on June 10 after thousands of Panamanians took to the streets demanding the ousting of military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

They were joined by a medical doctor and an explosives expert from the U.S. army's 5th Corps and an explosives expert from the Army Materiel Command at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., according to a statement released by the 5th Corps in Frankfurt.

5th Corps spokesman earlier said additional experts had been flown in from the army's safety centre.

The latest army statement identified the three soldiers killed in the accident as Sgt. Joseph M. Renaldi, 25, of Springfield, Pa., Spec. 4 Keith Lavoie, 21, of Burton, Mich., and Staff Sgt. Joseph L. Deweese, 27, of Keweenaw, Md.

Some of the 12 soldiers hospitalised after the accident remained in "critical but stable" condition, said Ms. Renata Stecher, a spokeswoman for the 58th Combat Engineer Company in Fulda, which was involved in the exercise.

Only three of the 278 voting

members of parliament were absent from Tuesday's vote, held after the Progressive Conservative government Monday used its massive parliamentary majority to shut down further debate and force a resolution of the issue before parliament adjourned for the summer.

The government argued that most MPs had made up their minds on the issue and that there had been sufficient debate in the media and the public to justify resolution of the matter.

Even if the motion to restore the death penalty had been approved, there was no certainty that state executions would have been enforced, at least for a year or more.

The government's proposed lengthy legislative process could

COLUMNS 7G8

Van Gogh painting sold for \$20.24m

LONDON (R) — Paintings by Vincent Van Gogh command first and second place as the world's most expensive paintings in recent auctions after an anonymous buyer paid £12.65 million (\$20.24 million) for a picture by the Dutch-born impressionist "Le Pavillon de Triquettschule," painted by Van Gogh in 1888 while living in the southern French town of Arles, was sold within two minutes to a European buyer bidding by telephone to a packed London auction room. Christie's Chairman Charles Alsop, who conducted the sale, said he was thrilled with the result, which came just three months after Van Gogh's "Sunflowers" went for \$24.7 million (\$40 million) to a Japanese insurance company, making it the most expensive painting ever sold at a public auction. Van Gogh sold only one canvas in his lifetime.

Israelis deport American 'messiah'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Airport officials deported an American black who declared he was the messiah because they thought he belonged to the Black Hebrew sect, an airport police spokesman said Monday. The man, dressed in white flowing robes and carrying a bronze staff, arrived in Israel on Saturday night, the spokesman said. He bore a passport in the name of Marvin Sylvester but said he was the messiah, son of David. Airport authorities deported him the following day on the same Trans-World Airline passenger plane that brought him to Israel but only announced the incident on Monday. Police said they found prayer books and other religious paraphernalia in his baggage which led them to suspect he might be a member of the Black Hebrews. About 1,500 members of the U.S.-originated cult live in Israel, most of them in Dimona, a small town 120 kilometres south of Jerusalem.

AIDS carrier charged for selling blood

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An alleged male prostitute who sold his AIDS-contaminated blood to a plasma centre was charged with attempted murder, authorities said. District Attorney Jim Reiner said he would ask that Joseph Edward Markowski be held without bail following arraignment on charges including attempted murder, assault and attempted poisoning. Markowski, 29, admitted he sold blood knowing he might be spreading acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) through the blood supply, Reiner said. He quoted Markowski as telling authorities: "I know AIDS can kill. But I was so hard up for money I didn't give a damn."

Rust complains about prison food

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP) — Mathias Rust, the young West German pilot who landed on Red Square, has complained about the food he is served in a Moscow prison, the mass-circulation Bild newspaper has said. Bild said Rust met with a representative of the West German embassy in Moscow on Monday, and asked him to intervene with Soviet officials. "He (Rust) asked the leader of the embassy's legal affairs division whether he could arrange improved nourishment," Bild said, without quoting sources for its report. Bild said the 19-year-old pilot has met twice with representatives of Moscow's West German embassy since he was imprisoned on May 22.

China executes 2 for robbing tourists

HONG KONG (R) — Two men were executed in South China after they were convicted of robbing foreign tourists, a Hong Kong newspaper has said. The pro-Peking Ta Kung Pao said in a report from Shenzhen, near Hong Kong, that Zhou Wenzhong and Zhou Yunqing were executed immediately after their conviction at a mass rally. Execution is usually carried out in China by a single shot through the neck. Three accomplices were sentenced to between 10 to 15 years in jail for robbing Hong Kong tourists visiting relatives in China, the daily said. It quoted officials as saying the men posed as drivers at the Shenzhen Railway Station to lure tourists into their car and then rob them.

U.S. serial killings grow to 37

SEATTLE, WA. (R) — The discovery of human bones in a wooded area south of here has pushed the total number of victims by the so-called "Green River Killer" to 37, authorities have said. Vaughan Van Zant, a spokesman for the King County Medical Examiner's office, said the remains were found over the weekend about 48 kilometres south of Seattle. He said the latest identified victim was Cindy Ann Smith of Seattle, who was 17 when she was last seen hitchhiking on March 21, 1984. Smith's name was on a list of 10 missing women believed to be victims of a single slayer.

Crocodiles claim ninth victim in Australia

BRISBANE (R) — The grisly discovery of three leg bones and some clothing on a deserted beach in northern Australia has convinced police that crocodiles have claimed their ninth victim in 17 months. Police said they will search an area on the tip of Cape York peninsula in Queensland for more remains of Cornwall Mooka, a local fisherman who went missing four days ago. Mooka was last seen on Friday as he set off for a walk near the aboriginal settlement of Bamaga through an area infested with crocodiles. Researchers found a fibula, tibia and femur plus clothing identified as belonging to Mooka, 37.

Dial-a-condom starts 24-hour service

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Need a condom but too shy to ask a shop assistant? Hamburg residents can ring dial-a-condom 24 hours a day and have them delivered by a condom-on-wheels service direct to their door anywhere in the city in less than half an hour. The cost of avoiding embarrassment is 12 marks (\$6) for a packet of three, about six times the over-the-counter price.

U.S. divorce rate is 1 in 8

NEW YORK (AP) — The widely circulated idea that about one out of two American marriages will end in divorce is wrong by a wide margin, and actually the American family is surviving, according to a Harris Poll released Sunday. The concept that half of American marriages are doomed is "one of the most specious pieces of statistical nonsense ever perpetrated in modern times," pollster Louis Harris asserted. Harris said government figures and his survey show that only one out of eight marriages will end in divorce. And in any single year, he said, only about 2 per cent of existing marriages will break up. A census bureau statistician agreed with Harris that the 50 per cent figure for marriage breakup has been presented misleadingly by omitting important qualifications. "One critical element left out of the equation," Harris said, was that while 2.5 million marriages and 1.2 million divorces may occur during a year, "a much, much bigger 34 million other marriages just keep flowing along." Harris said the misconception followed the 1981 report of the U.S. National Centre for Health Statistics that there had been 2.4 million new marriages and 1.2 million divorces during the year.

Gays parade in U.S. cities

NEW YORK (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of spectators watched as marchers, bands and floats paraded in cities around the country Sunday for gay pride festivities shadowed by solemnity because of the deadly disease AIDS. "This is not as much a carnival as it once was," said Joe Sieber, 41, of the San Francisco homosexual community's 18th parade attended some 100,000 people. Up to 250,000 spectators were expected in West Hollywood, California, with more than 100,000 in New York and an estimated 60,000 in Chicago. Organisers expected about 10,000 people for Seattle's second such parade.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦Q1054 ♦Q83 ♦K94 ♦652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A—In the modern style, the way to show a dead minimum after partner's reverse is to bid two no trump. However, with an honour card in each of partner's suits you should consider you had to be that bad. Take your normal preference to three diamonds and see how the auction continues.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A1K103 ♦Q9854 063 ♦K72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
A—if you and your partner play negative doubles, this is the perfect hand for such action. If you do not, you have no option but to pass. A bid of either major would be forcing, and with a potential misfit you do not have the values to make partner bid at the three-level.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦K9872 ♦C7 095 ♦K10754
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
A—After partner's no trump rebid, a new suit by you is not forcing. Since your unbalanced hand will almost certainly play better at a suit contract than at no trump, there is no reason why you should not bid two clubs to give partner a

Arsonists kill 2 in W. Germany

DETROIT, West Germany (AP) — Arsonists set fire to a home housing mostly Tamil refugees early Tuesday, killing two people and injuring 10 others, police said.

It also recommended that the top three floors of the eight-storey building should be rebuilt to eliminate bugs and provide a secure area. The lower five levels could be used for non-sensitive operations.

The solution to our problems will be neither easy nor cheap," he said. Mr. Schlesinger estimated the cost of his recommended changes at \$43 million.

Mr. Schlesinger outlined some recommendations at a Moscow news conference earlier this month but his subsequent report was not made public.

Experts probe demolition exercise accident

Meanwhile American military experts flown in from the United States combed the site of a demolition exercise accident on Monday to determine the cause of a blast that killed three U.S. soldiers and injured 12 others, officials said.

Two investigators from the U.S. Army Safety Centre at Fort Rucker, Ala., arrived in West Germany early Monday and went immediately to the training site at Hohenfels, 60 kilometres south of Nuremberg, where the accident occurred Sunday, according to military officials.

They were joined by a medical doctor and an explosives expert from the U.S. army's 5th Corps and an explosives expert from the Army Materiel Command at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., according to a statement released by the 5th Corps in Frankfurt.

5th Corps spokesman earlier said additional experts had been flown in from the army's safety centre.

The latest army statement identified the three soldiers killed in the accident as Sgt. Joseph M. Renaldi, 25, of Springfield, Pa., Spec. 4 Keith Lavoie, 21, of Burton, Mich., and Staff Sgt. Joseph L. Deweese, 27, of Keweenaw, Md.

Some of the 12 soldiers hospitalised after the accident remained in "critical but stable" condition, said Ms. Renata Stecher, a spokeswoman for the 58th Combat Engineer Company in Fulda, which was involved in the exercise.

The result, which puts to rest an emotional debate, fulfills a 1984 election campaign promise by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, a staunch abolitionist, to allow a vote by members of parliament free of party constraints.

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